

HPS names RCTs, Health Physicist of the Year

Jim Crockett of Fluor Hanford and Mark Sims of CH2M HILL Hanford Group were recently honored as Radiation Protection Technicians of the Year and Richard Pierson of CH2M HILL was honored as the Health Physicist of the Year at the annual Columbia Chapter of the Health Physics Society awards ceremony in Richland.

"These awards are extremely prestigious in the health physics world," said Owen Berglund, Analytical Services As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) chairman. "The recipients of these awards have demonstrated significant accomplishments performing their work and extreme dedication to their craft."

Crockett is a senior radiological control technician assigned to the 222-S Laboratory and has more than 15 years of experience as an RCT. He was nominated for his "can-do" attitude and dedicated work ethic.

Crockett was the RCT lead in planning and performing the 222-SB high-efficiency particulate air filter change-out, which involved removing and replacing 96 HEPA filters from the primary ventilation system for the 222-S Laboratory. He ensured that personnel radiological safety was addressed throughout the job. Crockett performed initial surveys of the HEPA filter system, using respiratory protection, to ensure that the radiation levels were below the required levels for respiratory protection. These efforts allowed the job to be completed without the use of respiratory protection, which decreased the amount of time personnel were exposed to radiation.



Crockett



Sims

Brad Brannan, Fluor Hanford Analytical Services Radiological Control manager, presented the award to Crockett and said, "Jim Crockett is a key player among his team at the labs. His dedication to complete each task in the safest manner and with the utmost efficiency has earned him respect from his peers."

Sims is a senior RCT with more than 14 years of experience. He was nominated for taking a personal interest in his job and for his dedication to getting work done. Sims recently took the lead in procuring two trailers to be used for personnel decontamination at the tank farms ("Mobile assets the result of personal interest, teamwork," *Hanford Reach*, Feb. 10). He was instrumental in ensuring that other crafts were involved in determining the specifications for the trailers and relentlessly sought management support. The trailers are now on location and available for use.

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Pierson

Jim McAuley, radiological control health physicist with CH2M HILL, presented the award to Sims and said, "Mark Sims is the type of employee you want to make responsible for the tough jobs. He has the ability to get the job done."

Pierson is a technical specialist with CH2M HILL Closure Project support. He was recognized for his commitment to the field of health physics, his support of the local chapter, and his many contributions to the tank-cleanup mission.

Pierson has provided oversight to several projects with inherently high radiological risk and complexity. These included the AP-101 Pump Removal, SX Complex Hose-in-Hose Removal, AN Valve Pit Refurbishment, and the C-106 Thermocouple Removal. He was also directly involved in the design and radiological engineering analysis of the first waste transfer into Tank SY-101.

"His leadership in providing outstanding support to many areas of the company's work has made a direct contribution to the success of CH2M HILL and efforts to accelerate tank cleanup," said co-worker Darrin Hekkala of Radiological Engineering, who nominated Pierson for the award. ■